



Enhancing Safety Planning and Immigrant Survivors' Access to Immigration Relief and Public Benefits and Services in the West Virginia

By: NIWAP, American University, Washington College of Law

Hosted by: Legal Aid of West Virginia & the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Victim advocates and attorneys play a crucial role helping immigrant domestic violence, child/elder abuse, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking victims gain access to justice and the full range of services and assistance they are legally entitled to receive. This training will provide an overview of the paths to legal immigration status for survivors of crime and abuse and the important role victim advocates can play in collaboration with victim's attorney in the preparation of immigrant survivors VAWA self-petitioning and U visa cases. Participants will learn to use a trauma-informed approach and tools that help victims heal as they write their stories that are a required part of each survivor's immigration case. The training will discuss in detail how filing for immigration relief expands access to publicly funded benefits and services for immigrant victims and their children in West Virginia. Participants will build skills to identify the benefits for which immigrant victims qualify and best practices for accompanying immigrant survivors applying for benefits they or their children are eligible to receive. In addition, the training will discuss VAWA confidentiality protections against immigration enforcement, detention, and removal and how these impact case planning and promote victim safety. Webinar attendees will receive access to tools, training materials, resources, and technical assistance to support their work with immigrant survivors and their children.

By the end of this training participants will be able to:

- Screen immigrant survivors for immigration relief eligibility and use trauma informed tools to help victims' attorneys develop and collect needed evidence;
- Quickly identify which immigrant victims and their children qualify for which types of publicly funded benefits and services (e.g. housing, healthcare) in the West Virginia;
- Understand how filing for crime victim related forms of immigration relief enhances access to the public benefits safety net for victims; and
- Secure VAWA confidentiality protections from removal for immigrant survivors enhancing access to justice and improved effectiveness of safety planning.

Date: November 10, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:20p.m.

Audience: Victim advocates and attorneys

Faculty:

- Leslye E. Orloff, Adjunct Professor and Director, National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, American University, Washington College of Law

Registration Page:

<https://wvcadv.coalitionmanager.org/eventmanager/trainingevent/details/7>

Attorneys: Please include your Bar ID# in the "Certification Id" field during registration.